

REMARKS

Response to Election/Restriction Requirements, Applicant elects Group I with Claims 13-22 and 24-27, drawn on an orthopedic implant without traverse. Claims of Elected Group I, 13-32 and 24-27 are amended to further describe applicant's invention. Claim of Group II, 23 and Claims of Group III 28, 29 are withdrawn and presently amended to further clarify applicant's invention and to include all the limitations of generic claim 13 to allow rejoinder of these claims. Amendments are fully supported by specification and figures as originally filed. No new matter is believed or intended to be introduced by these amendments.

As claim of Group II, 23 and Claims of Group III 28, 29 are withdrawn and presently amended (See MPEP 714, permitting amendments to withdrawn claims) to include all the limitations of elected generic claim 13, applicant respectfully respect withdrawal of Election/Restriction requirements and rejoin the claims of Group II, 23 and Claims of Group III 28, 29.

It is respectfully submitted that this submission is fully responsive to outstanding Office Action mailed on March 2, 2009. It is respectfully requested that prosecution on the merits now proceed on the basis of claims listed in listing of claims in this paper on page no. 2 as amended herein, and on election without traverse as set forth hereinabove with request to rejoin claims of non elected Group II and Group III.

Conclusion

Accordingly all the objections and rejections of record are believed to be overcome. Withdrawal of the rejections and continuation of examination is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative at 707.356.4172 if it is believed that an interview might be useful for any reason.

Date: March 30, 2009

Respectfully submitted,
/Narendra Reddy Thappeta/
Signature
Printed Name: Narendra Reddy Thappeta
Attorney for Applicant
Registration Number: 41,416